

ABSTRACT

An R-T-B system rare earth permanent magnet, which comprises at least main phase grains consisting essentially of  $R_2T_{14}B$  compounds and a grain boundary phase having a higher amount of R than the above described main phase grains, and

which satisfies the following formulas:

$AVE(X)/Y = 0.8 \text{ to } 1.0$ ; and

$(X/Y)_{\max}/(X/Y)_{\min} = 2.0 \text{ to } 13.0$ ,

wherein X represents (the weight ratio of heavy rare earth elements)/(the weight ratio of all the rare earth elements) for a given number of the above described main phase grains in the above described sintered body;

Y represents (the weight ratio of heavy rare earth elements)/(the weight ratio of all the rare earth elements) for the sintered body as a whole;

AVE(X) represents the mean value of X obtained for the given number of the main phase grains;

(X/Y)<sub>min</sub> represents the minimum value of (X/Y) obtained for the given number of the main phase grains; and

(X/Y)<sub>max</sub> represents the maximum value of (X/Y) obtained for the given number of the main phase grains.